

NEW SOUTH WALES - Highlights from Household Expenditure Survey 2003-04

By state:

- Households in NSW recorded the third highest average weekly expenditure (\$938).
- NSW also had the third highest level of gross household income (\$1,212 a week).
- Between 1998-99 and 2003-04, total expenditure on goods and services in New South Wales increased by 27%.
- NSW did not record the highest or lowest expenditure in any broad expenditure category.
- At the detailed expenditure items level, New South Wales had the highest expenditure on fish and seafood (\$5 a week) and public transport (\$6 a week).
- Significant increases in expenditure over the five years from 1998-99 were on pay TV (up 357%), internet charges (up 197%), mobile telephone charges (up 162%), health practitioners' fees (up 54%) and the interest component of mortgage repayments (up 52%).

Differences in demographic characteristics of households help to explain New South Wales' relatively high levels of expenditure. These factors include:

- NSW had a relatively high proportion of households with wages and salaries income as the principal source of income (59%).
- NSW also had a relatively high average number of people per household (2.6).

By capital city:

- Sydney record the third highest expenditure (\$1,022). Only Darwin and Canberra were higher than Sydney in terms of total expenditure.
- Comparing each broad category of goods and services expenditure, Sydney had one the highest expenditures on housing costs (\$184 a week), food and non-alcoholic beverages (\$176 a week) and transport (\$151 a week). Sydney recorded the highest rent payments (\$71 a week).
- Sydney did not record the lowest expenditure in any broad expenditure category.
- Significant increases in expenditure over the five years from 1998-99 were on pay TV (up 323%), internet charges (up 218%), mobile telephone charges (up 142%) and the interest component of mortgage repayments (up 63%).

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
Average weekly expenditure (\$)	938	888	820	814	871	753	1,038	1,052	883
Mean gross household income per week (\$)	1,212	1,134	1,036	1,033	1,098	897	1,401	1,399	1,128

Extract from Tables 25 and 26 of Household Expenditure Survey, Australia: Summary of Results, 2003-04 (cat. no. 6530.0).

This page last updated 3 July 2008